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REGIONAL ENERGY CODES CONFERENCE SET FOR OCTOBER 16-18 IN OMAHA Experts to Focus on How Energy Codes Can Be Effective, Beneficial

LINCOLN – The Nebraska Energy Office will host the Great Plains Energy Codes Conference October 16-18, 2012 in Omaha at the Marriott in Regency Plaza. The regional conference will present innovative ways of addressing enforcement and compliance of energy codes. Additional sessions will present information on the values of codes, how to adopt and implement codes and grassroots advocacy.

The conference will have separate commercial and residential building code tracks. The commercial sessions will examine building design, R-values and efficiency requirements. The residential session will cover green building, envelope tightness and review of typical house designs. Special sessions will include real estate advantages of selling energy efficient homes and review of the codes for heating, ventilation and air conditioning contractors. Distinctions between the 2009 and 2012 International Energy Conservation Codes will be presented.

The conference is designed for interested professionals from Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas and Missouri. Those professionals who work with building energy codes such as homebuilders, architects, engineers, general contractors, heating/cooling and ventilation professionals, utility representatives, local codes officials, policy makers, government officials and equipment suppliers will find the topics beneficial. Many of the conference sessions will be certified for Continuing Education Units and Learning Units.

"For the past decade, the Energy Office has provided information, training and enforcement expertise on building energy codes to local officials, builders, designers and consumers, said Ginger Willson, Director of the Nebraska Energy Office. "We're pleased to be able to offer this information opportunity to others across the region."

Registration and additional information about the Great Plains Energy Codes Conference is at: http://www.neo.ne.gov/codesconf/.

This regional conference is being funded through the U.S. Department of Energy, State Energy Program Special Projects Grant, the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* and contributions from local industries.

The Nebraska Energy Office was created in 1977 to promote the efficient, economic and environmentally responsible use of energy in Nebraska. In 2008, the Energy Office became a stand-alone agency within state government with the Director serving as a member of the Governor's Cabinet.

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